Verb To Be

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. Complete the sentence: I ___ ready for the tour.
   - A. am
   - B. is
   - C. are
   - D. be

   Correct answer: A. am
   The present form of be with I is am.

2. Complete the sentence: Lina ___ my neighbor.
   - A. am
   - B. are
   - C. is
   - D. be

   Correct answer: C. is
   Lina is a third-person singular subject, so it takes is.

3. Complete the sentence: The windows ___ open.
   - A. am
   - B. are
   - C. is
   - D. be

   Correct answer: B. are
   Windows is plural, so the verb is are.

4. Which verb completes ‘You ___ early today’?
   - A. be
   - B. is
   - C. am
   - D. are

   Correct answer: D. are
   Use are with you, whether you are speaking to one person or several.

5. What are the full words for ‘we’re’?
   A. we were
   B. we are
   C. we will
   D. we have
   Correct answer: B. we are
   The apostrophe marks the letters omitted from are.

6. Choose the standard negative sentence.
   A. I’m not from this town.
   B. I amn't from this town.
   C. I isn't from this town.
   D. I aren't from this town.
   Correct answer: A. I’m not from this town.
   I am not can be shortened to I’m not.

7. Which answer fits ‘The doors ___ locked today; you can come straight in’?
   A. are
   B. isn’t
   C. am not
   D. aren’t
   Correct answer: D. aren’t
   Doors is plural, and the invitation requires the negative aren’t.

8. Which is the standard question about your keys?
   A. Do my keys are on the shelf?
   B. Is my keys on the shelf?
   C. Are my keys on the shelf?
   D. Am my keys on the shelf?
   Correct answer: C. Are my keys on the shelf?
   Move are before the plural subject to form the question.

9. Which standard short answer fits ‘Is Mina at the library?’
   A. Yes, she is.
   B. Yes, she are.
   C. Yes, she’s.
   D. Yes, she am.
   Correct answer: A. Yes, she is.
   A positive short answer ends with the full form is.

10. Which standard short answer fits ‘Are the buses here yet?’

A. No, they are.
B. No, they isn’t.
C. No, it isn’t.
D. No, they aren’t.

Correct answer: D. No, they aren’t.
Replace the plural subject with they and give the negative are not.

11. What is the standard written question about the location of your ticket?

A. Where does my ticket is?
B. Where my ticket is?
C. Where is my ticket?
D. Where are my ticket?

Correct answer: C. Where is my ticket?
In this direct question the question word is followed by is and the subject.

12. Complete ‘The box of art supplies ___ under the desk.’

A. are
B. is
C. am
D. be

Correct answer: B. is
The subject is the singular box. Supplies is part of the phrase describing it.

13. Complete ‘My notebook and pen ___ in my bag.’

A. be
B. is
C. am
D. are

Correct answer: D. are
Notebook and pen names two items joined by and, so use are.

14. Which pair completes ‘I ___ ready, but my partner ___ not’?

A. am / is
B. am / are
C. is / am
D. are / is

Correct answer: A. am / is
I takes am. The singular my partner takes is.

15. Which words complete ‘Can you tell me ___?’ in standard written English?

A. where the lockers is
B. where are the lockers
C. where the lockers are
D. where am the lockers

Correct answer: C. where the lockers are

An embedded where-clause uses subject-verb order. The plural lockers takes are.